(b) if so, whether Government are considering a ban on sale of junk food in school/college canteens to avoid the situation going out of hand; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to bring awareness so that the consumer themselves avoid taking junk food, the demand of which is increasing?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Junk food has not been defined under the PFA Act, 1954 and Rules made thereunder. The manufacture and sale of ready-to eat food in small/big restaurants, street food, railway stations are available to meet the growing need of consumers.

There is no proposal to ban the manufacture and sale of these products.

(c) It is always the endeavour of the Government to promote healthy life styles, which also include proper food nutrition.

Capitation fee

†2536. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Medical Colleges in the country are charging a huge amount from students as capitation fee;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the eligible students who are unable to pay capitation fee are deprived of admission in the medical colleges; and

(d) if so, the action Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) with a view to prevent the commercialization of medical education, and also to prevent private medical colleges from charging capitation fees, the Supreme Court

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of India in the case of Unnikrishnan J.P. Versus State of Andhra Pradesh, evolved a scheme for regulating admissions in private medical collegs. Since merit was the sole criteria for obtaining admissions, hard-working and meritorious students have benefited by the scheme evolved by the Supreme Court. As regards the fee structure, this had been fixed by the Supreme Court for the period 1993-94 to 1996-97. Subsequently, the Central Government has been fixing the upper ceiling of fee for merit and payment seats in private medical colleges and within this upper ceiling, the fees in each medical college is being fixed by the respective State Government. Ne fee has, however, been prescribed by the Central Government for seats earmarked for NRI/Foreign students. However, the eleven judge bench of Supreme Court has given a recent judgement on admission process and fee structure in aided and unaided institutions.

Unani CGHS dispensaries in the country

2537. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Unani CGHS dispensaries in various parts of the country especially in New Delhi along with name of the places;

(b) the number of patients treated in Unani CGHS dispensaries during the last three years alongwith capacity of treatment of patients of these dispensaries, year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to strengthen the Unani CGHS dispensaries?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE[1] (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) The CGHS Unani dispensaries are[1] in the following cities:—

Dethrone Unani dispensary each in Sarojini Nagar, South Avenue, Naraina Vihar and Darya Ganj.